ALABAMA SOCIAL WELFARE

State Department of Pensions and Security

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

How the County Departments Serve Adults, Families, Children, and the Community

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1974

Cover Illustrations

Upper left: A Homemaker at work. Designed to help eligible adults with household tasks, homemaker services are one alternative to institutional care.

Lower Photos: Day care services for children are important so mothers can work; day care for adults helps aged, blind and disabled persons remain in familiar surroundings.

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The County Departments of Pensions and Security:

How They Serve The Whole Community

Alabama's 67 county departments of pensions and security are often among the busiest places in the State. While the State Department supervises county departments, it is in those sometimes overcrowded and understaffed offices that the real work of public welfare in Alabama takes place. County departments administer three broad programs in conformity with State and Federal laws and policies: social services, food assistance and financial aid. Members of the staff work with other agencies to foster human and community betterment. In times of disaster, the agency's emergency welfare services reach into all of these areas and touch all victims. Financing of the agency's programs is primarily from State and Federal funds, though some local monies may be available for meeting problems not otherwise covered.

Each county department is headed by a Director and, in some of the larger counties, one or two Assistant Directors. Each department maintains close contact with its County Board, which serves the agency in an advisory capacity.

Several State and national developments during the past year have had a direct effect on county pensions and security. These included: (1) the new Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, administered by the Federal Social Security Administration, (2) termination of Federal aid in old age pension, aid to blind, and aid to disabled programs and establishment of State supplementary old age, blind, and disabled programs, (3)) phasing out of all food distribution (commodity) programs and their replacement with the Food Stamp Program wherever it did not already exist, and (4) establishment of the State Youth Services Department.

Financial Aid to Adults

The new SSI program, which began operation in January of 1974, did not in any respect signal the end of public assistance for adults as a function of county departments. These agencies now provide supplementation from State funds for eligible aged, blind and disabled persons in need of financial aid. Eligibility is determined at the county level, with the State Department issuing checks to recipients. These include those who are not eligible for SSI but would be eligible for assistance under the former State-Federal assistance programs for adults and those who

(Continued on next page)

The County Departments of Pensions and Security

(Continued from Page 1)

were receiving more under the former programs than they receive under SSI, usually because of some special need. The State programs continue as Old Age Pensions, Aid to the Blind, and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled. Temporary Aid is a limited program for help in certain emergency situations, such as a temporary illness or injury, and is limited to $50 in any one 12-months' period.

Financial Aid to Families and Children

Aid to Dependent Children, Aid to Children in Foster Care, and Aid to Children in Day Care are three programs aimed at bettering the opportunities for children and families. A State-Federal program with eligibility determined at the county office, ADC is for children who are in need by agency standards and who have lost the support of one or both parents through death, disability or continued absence from the home. Children in ADC families and other dependent children may be cared for at board, when necessary, through Aid to Children in Foster Care. Aid to Children in Day Care is a program whereby vendor payments are made for eligible children who need such care.

Food Assistance

Departments of Pensions and Security throughout Alabama now provide food assistance through the U. S. Department of Agriculture Food Stamp Program. A Federal law phased out the food distribution program in 1974, and, in order to continue providing food assistance to their citizens, 38 counties made the transition to the Food Stamp Program. Food Stamps, like commodities, benefit both public assistance recipients and others with low incomes and limited resources. County food stamp workers both certify persons for eligibility and issue stamps. The Food Stamp Program allows beneficiaries to buy some stamps, while receiving bonus coupons in addition to those purchased.

Besides the phasing out of the food distribution program, two other laws enacted in 1973 and 1974 had a significant impact on the Food Stamp Program as operated by county departments. Both laws, one State and one Federal, dealt with the financing of the program, which depends on county governments for a portion of the costs. A law passed by the 1973 State Legislature provided that the four percent sales tax paid on bonus coupons be returned to the county in an amount up to, but not more than, the amount required to operate a food stamp program. A Federal law signed by the President in July of 1974 increased substantially the portion of program costs borne by the U.S.D.A. Both laws are expected to provide meaningful help in operating this much-needed program, which benefits so many Alabamians.

Now statewide, the Food Stamp Program helps many Alabamians buy more and better food to improve their diets.

Social Services

More and more, social services have assumed a role of extremely high importance in county departments throughout Alabama. A wide variety of services are available to eligible adults, children, and families. Emergency welfare services benefit the entire community in times of disaster.

Adult Services are geared primarily toward enabling the aged, blind and disabled to remain in or return to the familiar surroundings of their own homes or communities. Adults who can no longer live at home may receive services to help them move into settings where their needs can be met. Specific adult service programs are offered to current, former or potential recipients of SSI. Valuable information and referral services, however, are provided to assist any aged, blind or disabled person who needs help in finding or utilizing a community resource to fill his needs.

Protective services, services enabling persons to remain in or return to their homes or communities, services to meet health needs, self-support services for the handicapped, services

Social Services help shut-ins and patients in nursing homes.

to improve living arrangements and enhance daily living activities, special services for the blind and for others with particular needs are among those provided through the county agency. Adult foster care, now provided to more than 100 persons throughout the State, benefits those who can no longer live alone but who can function in a family setting. Many county departments offer homemaker services for adults who need help with household tasks in order to continue living at home. Day care for adults has received increasing attention as an alternative to institutionalization, and this service is now offered in two Department-administered centers in Calhoun County. Whatever the problem, workers at the County Department of Pensions and Security are prepared to help the aged, blind and disabled overcome barriers to independent living, security and comfort.

Emergency Welfare Services of the County Department are activated immediately in the event of an emergency or disaster. Charged by law with coordination of welfare-related resources in times of disaster, the Department assures the availability of feeding, clothing, lodging, registration, information and referral, and social services.

In the spring of 1974, as in 1973, tornadoes caused widespread damage, destruction and human suffering, with affected county departments providing help to victims for as long as the agency's services were needed. Related to Emergency Welfare Services is the new assistance program for disaster victims, the Individual and Family Grant Program (see article elsewhere in this issue). Twenty-eight county departments, those involved in the Presidentially declared disasters of May 1973 and April 1974, are now taking applications for assistance under this program.

Services for Families and Children are aimed at strengthening family life, fostering child development, and assisting parents or caretakers in finding and maintaining employment. Such services are available to current, former and potential applicants and recipients of ADC and to children and families for whom the Department has accepted responsibility to provide services. Vital services for ADC families relate to the Work Incentive Program, or WIN, which is aimed at restoring independence through jobs and job training. Unless specifically exempt, all ADC applicants and recipients are required to register for WIN. Employment Service handles the work aspects of the program, with the Department of Pensions and Security providing social services, including day care for children and transportation to and from work, when these can be arranged.

Child Welfare Services benefit children both eligible and ineligible for financial aid. Pensions and Security, by law, must find and assist children needing care and protection. Specific child welfare services include protective services, day care, both regular boarding home care and a specialized foster family home program for children with special needs, and adoption. Child care institutions are licensed by the State Department of Pensions and Security, with the county departments making referrals and working with children in Department custody. In those counties where the responsibility for probation services has been designated to the Department of Pensions and Security, this responsibility is carried by appropriate staff. This includes supervision of children released on probation by juvenile courts and those released from training schools.

Serving the Entire County

While some programs and services of the County Departments of Pensions and Security provide direct benefit to only a portion of the population, the entire community is served when help is made available to those who need it. Child Welfare and Emergency Welfare Services are among those directly affecting all citizens, regardless of income, resources or other requirements that may relate to other programs. Like Emergency Welfare Services, the new Individual and Family Grant Program could lessen the suffering of many citizens in the event of a Presidentially declared disaster. Just as important, each County Department works with local groups and agencies to foster community betterment in many areas. The Department does, indeed, serve the entire county and every citizen thereof.

With The County Boards

Covington County

J. Bernard Simmons of Andalusia has been reappointed to the Covington County Board of Pensions and Security. A new member is Mrs. Carlson Vines of Andalusia, who replaces Dallas Henderson, of Route 3, Andalusia.

Marion County

Reappointed to the Marion County Board are J. H. Mixon and Mrs. Golden Ridings of Hamilton.

Bullock County

An active community leader, Mrs. Katie Belle Shepherd of Midway, is a new member of the Bullock County Board of Pensions and Security. She replaces Alfred Adams also of Midway.

Geneva County

The newest member of the Geneva County Board of Pensions and Security is Mrs. Lucille Boles of Hartford who was appointed to fill the vacancy left by Mrs. Milton Holman. Mrs. Boles is not a stranger to the department as she has worked in the Sumter County office as secretary to the Director. Mrs. Boles is an active worker in the Hartford Presbyterian Church. Her hobbies include gardening and sewing. Her warmth and compassion for others will make a genuine contribution to agency programs.

Blount County

The entire County was saddened this fall by the death of a former long-time county pensions and security board member, Barney Pearman.

Pickens County

The most recently appointed Pickens County Pensions and Security board member is J. C. Blakney of Gordo. He replaces the late Hiram D. Davis who served until his death in late October, 1973.

Autauga County

The Autauga County Board of Pensions and Security submitted the following resolution on the death of the Honorable E. A. Grouby, Probate Judge:

"WHEREAS, Honorable E. A. (Bud) Grouby served well as Autauga County Judge of Probate, being elected in 1966 to complete the unexpired term of the late James A. Rice, then was re-elected, this time to a full six-year term which he was serving at the time of his death on October 2, 1974, and

"WHEREAS, Judge E. A. Grouby was first elected to public office in 1937, and served on the Prattville City Council during the war years, then was elected to the House of Representatives, State Legislature, where he served for sixteen years, and

"WHEREAS, Judge Grouby, faithful and diligent servant of the people who elected him to public office, always had an open ear to any request or any need of his constituents, he was a favorite of the citizens who were in great need, and of those interested in serving the needy and disadvantaged, and

"WHEREAS, he participated actively in County and City activities, among them being the First Baptist Church, Masons, Lions' Club, County Commissioners, Farm Bureau and Cattlemen's Association.

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that sympathy be extended to Judge Grouby's family, emphasizing the loss to this County.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be sent to Judge Grouby's widow, spread upon the Minutes of this Board, and mailed to ALABAMA SOCIAL WELFARE."

Lee County

The Lee County Board of Pensions and Security adopted the following resolution when its long-time Board Chairman, F. Marion Hyatt died.

"WHEREAS, F. Marion Hyatt served as a dedicated and loyal Board Chairman of the Lee County Board from September 1957 until his death on October 10, 1974, and

"WHEREAS, he being devoted to the purpose of this agency in its efforts toward human betterment, sought daily to foster better understanding of the Department, and,

"WHEREAS, he continued to manifest concern for humanity with his contributions of service and leadership in other organizations, and

"WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Pensions and Security is saddened at his death, as also are the agency staff members,

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lee County Board express genuine regret at the County's loss of the services of Mr. Hyatt as a concerned citizen and our loss of a kindly, compassionate friend, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lee County Board express to the family of F. Marion Hyatt their regret at his death.

"BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and published in Alabama Social Welfare'.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this shall go forth to the family of F. Marion Hyatt."

Commissioner Oliver Installs Dr. Tunstall

The accompanying photograph shows Commissioner Julia Oliver as she installed the late Dr. Loraine Bedsole Tunstall in the Alabama Women's Hall of Fame at ceremonies on the Judson College Campus in late October. Doctor Tunstall was the leading pioneer in the development of Alabama's Child Welfare and later Public Welfare programs. She was instrumental in the establishment of the State Child Welfare Department in 1919 and drafted the legislation for its successor, the Department of Public Welfare, which is now the Department of Pensions and Security. Alabama's long history of child welfare legislation is a living memorial to the work of Doctor Tunstall.

Also installed at the ceremonies was the late Dr. Henrietta Gibbs of Montgomery. She was installed by Mrs. Margery B. Gaillard.

The following is an outline of Mrs. Tunstall's career which was included in the installation program: Loraine Bedsole Tunstall, 1879-1953, was the first woman in the State of Alabama appointed to head a department in the state government. When the legislature created the Child Welfare Department, 1923, she was appointed its first director, holding that position until her retirement in 1935.

Prior to being named to this position, Mrs. Tunstall had worked intensively in the field of social services to children. From 1915 to 1917 she was the first child labor inspector in Alabama. During the next two years she worked with the United States Department of Labor with responsibility for the enforcement of the first federal child labor law. In 1919 as a member of the National Child Labor Committee she worked with several state legislatures in the passage of legislation beneficial to children. It is to her credit that her own home state also passed its first beneficial legislation on this question during this time.

During the time that Mrs. Tunstall was director of the State Child Welfare Department, she was instrumental in the development of legislation covering juvenile courts, adoption procedures, standards of care for child care institutions and agencies, placement of children, and child labor. Implementing the 1923 legislation which created the department she headed, county child welfare boards were established with direct relation to the State Child Welfare Department.

Not only was Mrs. Tunstall closely identified with the development of sound child welfare practices in Alabama, she was known nationally for her application of sound social work philosophies. She was a member of committees of the National Conferences of Social Work, a member of the Board of the American Public Welfare Association, and a member of the White House Conference of 1930.

Commissioner Oliver displays plaque honoring the late Dr. Loraine Bedsole Tunstall.

Between 1932 and 1934 Mrs. Tunstall laid the foundation for Alabama being the first State to be ready to initiate the Federal Relief Program legislated in the early 1930's. In 1935 when Federal Social Security Legislation was passed, again through Mrs. Tunstall's leadership, Alabama became the first State to pass enabling laws to implement the program.

Qualified personnel were essential for the implementation of social services for children, and Mrs. Tunstall initiated a plan of cooperation with educational institutions to provide that personnel. Foremost for her, however, was a sound philosophy and implementation that children and their needs came first. She established a tradition in Alabama that social services should be provided even in the remotest parts of the state, so that no child would be deprived by the geography of his birth. This is the living evidence of Mrs. Tunstall's influence on behalf of children in Alabama and America.

Sumter Gets Transportation System For The Elderly

Frank Mitchell, 83, is greeted on his arrival in York by Mayor W. C. Grant, Sr. At right are Joe Farmer of the Sumter County Department of Pensions and Security and Carl McDonald, Executive Director of the York Housing Authority.

A transportation system for elderly persons in Sumter County began operation in November. The Area Agency on Aging has contracted with the City of York to provide the service, according to Fleetwood Hollinger, III, agency director.

York Mayor Warren Grant explained that the 12-passenger van will run on regularly scheduled routes in the county each weekday, going into a different part of the county each day. During the middle part of each day, the bus will be used to transport participants to the Meals for the Elderly nutrition site in York.

Persons 60 years of age and older are eligible to ride the bus. Although no fixed fee is charged, passengers are encouraged to make a contribution of at least 25 cents.

The grant for the transportation program, received through the Alabama Commission on Aging, supplied $99,281 to the Area Agency on Aging to serve a 10-county area covering 9,600 square miles.

The need for a transportation system for Sumter County's isolated elderly, Hollinger pointed out, was underscored recently by a survey which showed that they lacked adequate transportation. Conducted by the Alabama-Tombigbee Rivers Regional Planning and Development Commission, the survey found that, in many cases, elderly persons paid as much as $8 or more for a ride to town to see the doctor or to transact essential busines.

Joe Farmer, Adult Service Worker with the Sumter County Department of Pensions and Security, helped set up the transportatiin system. He helped to plan schedules and routes for the county in which he felt the most people could be served.

Homemaker Services Aid the "Lonely and Forgotton"

She's a friend of the "lonely and forgotten." That's how Mrs. Agnes Ackerson sees part of her job as a homemaker with the Etowah County Department of Pensions and Security. She described her duties recently at a meeting of the County Council of Community Services.

Etowah County's homemaker program was established in February as a means of helping the aged, blind and disabled who are well enough to remain in their own homes but who need assistance with household chores. More than 700 persons in 28 Alabama counties benefited from the program in August, and more counties have been allocated staff positions for the service.

Mrs. Ackerson serves about a dozen clients, spending an average of three hours weekly with each. Like those of other homemakers, her duties are varied, and a plan for each client is worked out by the client's caseworker, the homemaker, and the client himself. Mrs. Ackerson's work includes cleaning house, defrosting the refrigerator, preparing food for canning, buying groceries, preparing meals, transporting clients to the food stamp or social security office, or doing almost any chore or errand necessary to keep a household running smoothly and comfortably.

"Some people have a desperate need to talk to someone," Mrs. Ackerson says, adding that a homemaker must learn to be "patient, loving trustworthy, a jack of all trades, a good listener."

Editor's Note: This article was taken from the Gadsden **Times.**

Problems With The Federal Government For Commissioner Oliver

A fight to save social services for Alabama's mentally retarded and negotiations with the Social Security Administration concerning the money owed to Alabama have demanded much of Commissioner Julia J. Oliver's time in recent weeks. Also, the Commissioner and Department staff have been discussing an integrated data processing system that would automatically record changes in social services, food stamps, public assistance, and Medicaid eligibility.

Social Services for the Mentally Retarded

A memorandum issued by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare's Regional Office in Atlanta threatened recently to wipe out $10 million in social service contracts for Alabama's mentally retarded in institutions. After Alabama filed a suit in Federal Court, and after the State's Congressional Delegation registered vigorous protests, DHEW withdrew the memorandum. Problems with securing approval of the Department's interim plan for services, however, continue to threaten programs for the mentally retarded.

The Department of Pensions and Security was joined by the Department of Mental Health in the fight to prohibit DHEW from implementing its new policy, which would have limited to 90 days the provision of habilitation services to the mentally retarded in institutions. At issue were services offered at the Lurleen B. Wallace and Albert Brewer Developmental Centers and at Partlow School.

As is similar to the situation in many other states, the Department of Pensions and Security has contracted with the Department of Mental Health to provide social services to eligible mentally retarded persons in institutions. These services are aimed at habilitating clients so that they can be released to less restrictive environments. Entered into more than two years ago with the knowledge and encouragement of DHEW, the contracts provide services for up to five years prior to a client's release from the institution.

"With the issuance of the memorandum," Mrs. Oliver explains, "DHEW reversed its own policy by saying that these services could be provided only during a 90-year pre-release period."

Alabama's first concern in initiating action against DHEW was for the State's mentally retarded, who need habilitation services requiring far more than a three-month period of time. Both Mrs. Oliver and Mental Health Commissioner Taylor Hardin agreed that the change would not only negate present programs and abolish jobs for nearly 1,500 employees, but would also bring to a standstill the recent progress made in the entire mental health system toward strong statewide community-based mental health services.

"We contended that the new restriction on the length of time for providing services was clearly contrary to law," Mrs. Oliver added. "With the passage of Public Law 93-233, the Congress specifically prohibited the agency from changing its social service policy before January 1, 1975.

Mrs. Oliver also observed that DHEW attempted to administer the new policy unfairly, since only four of the nation's 10 regions received a memorandum of the kind protested by Alabama.

"Members of Alabama's Congressionol Delegation were highly instrumental in forcing DHEW to withdraw the memorandum," the Commissioner stated. "We are most grateful to them for helping us in our efforts to continue essential programs for the State's mentally retarded."

While the problem concerning the 90-day period for services has been resolved, problems with securing approval of the interim plan for services were still unresolved at press time. The fight to save social services for the mentally retarded in Alabama continues.

SSI Overpayments

Another serious problem faced by the Commissioner and the Department, still unresolved at press time, concerned overpayments made to adults receiving State assistance and caused by erroneous information supplied by the Social Security Administration. Some 13 states share this problem with Alabama, but Alabama stands to lose the most if SSA does not repay the money.

When the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program was instituted last January under the direction of SSA, an entirely State-funded program of supplementary payments for adults also began operation. This program was initiated to ensure that adults receiving aid under the former State-Federal programs would receive at least as much under the new system. The new State program also provides aid to some persons who, though not eligible for SSI, would have been eligible for assistance under Old Age Pensions,

(Continued on next page)

Problems with the Federal Government for Commissioner Oliver

(Continued from Page 7)

Aid to the Blind, and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled.

In calculating State payments to adults, the Department of Pensions and Security must rely to a great extent on information supplied by SSA through the State Data Exchange (SDX).

"This information has proved grossly erroneous," Mrs. Oliver explains, "with the result that SSA now owes the State a great deal of money."

In trying to recoup this money, Mrs. Oliver has enlisted the help of Alabama's Congressional Delegation, along with representatives of at least 12 other states with similar problems. On December 10, the Commissioner met in Washington with SSA Commissioner James B. Cardwell to discuss the matter and try to find a satisfactory solution.

"We hope that SSA can and will repay the money owed to Alabama," Mrs. Oliver stressed. "If payment is legally impossible, we will seek legislation enabling the Administration to repay Alabama and other states. If SSA is not legally prevented from repaying—and refuses to do so—it may be necessary to try to rectify the situation through court action."

Improved Data Processing

Unrelated to problems with the Federal government, but still extremely important, are attempts by the Commissioner and other staff to find better ways of using data processing to prevent errors and keep programs running smoothly. Ways are being sought to record reported changes in a client's status so that, for instance, a change in income reported to a food stamp worker would be made available to a public assistance worker through data processing. Similarly, if a client moved from one county to another and reported the address change to only one county departmnet, the change would be made known to the other affected department. This integrated system would not only reduce errors but would also make the recording of changes easier, simpler, and more efficient.

Visits to County Departments

Besides these and other activities, Mrs. Oliver has been making an effort to visit as many county departments of pensions and security as possible. These informal sessions allow the Commissioner to exchange ideas with workers and provide an opportunity for staff to ask questions.

"The visits have proved extremely beneficial to me, and, I hope, to staff members," Mrs. Oliver said. "During 1975, I hope that the Deputy Commissioner and I will visit all of the counties."

Alabama and A. P. W. A

Alabama is to be congratulated twice: (1) State membership in the American Public Welfare Association has reached 137 percent of its quota, thanks to the outstanding cooperation of county and State staff members; (2) Commissioner Julia J. Oliver has just been elected Vice President of the Organization.

Excellent groundwork is being prepared for hosting the Regional Conference at an early date. New members are still needed and welcome.

"A Report on School Work - Tuscaloosa County, Alabama"

by Jean Phillips and Jim Mysinger; published by School of Social Work, University of Alabama, May, 1974.

The University of Alabama School of Social Work has published a report by two of five first-year graduate students who were placed in field education as "school social workers" in a junior high school in Tuscaloosa County. The educational system of the County does not include a program of school social work. Any school participating with the School of Social Work is doing so as an individual institution.

The report reflects some of the experiences of the social work students in their efforts to initiate and develop a program in one particular school — successes, frustrations, and suggestions for further development.—C.L.M.

1974 Alabama Conference of Child Care

The Alabama Conference of Child Care had an outstanding meeting in Birmingham in early October. Elected President for 1975 was Roy McLaughlin, Assistant Executive Director of the Methodist Children's Home in Selma. Named First Vice-President was Dr. Lanett Gaines, Director of the Right to Read at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Other officers include: Second Vice-President, Sister Catherine Peter, Director of Catholic Social Services in Huntsville; Secretary, Mrs. Emma Henderson, Director of Stillman College Day Care Center; and Treasurer, Mrs. Lynn Gaston, Supervisor of Probation and Field Service, Central Alabama Youth Services in Selma.

Roy McLaughlin

With the theme, "People Resources: A Return to Basics," the conference focused on ways to help people working with children to do a better job. Highlights of the keynote address appear elsewhere in this publication.

The Individual and Family Grant Program: New Help for Disaster Victims

Governor Wallace announced in December that the State had received Federal approval of its plan for administering an Individual and Family Grant Program for disaster victims.

In making the announcement, the Governor designated the Civil Defense Department as the agency responsible for the program, with the Department of Pensions and Security administering the grants.

Made possible by the Federal Disaster Relief Act of 1974, the program is designed to benefit individuals and families with serious needs and necessary expenses resulting from Presidentially declared disasters. Since the law was retroactive to April of 1973, 28 Alabama counties will benefit almost immediately from the program. These counties were declared disaster areas by the President as a result of the tornadoes in May of 1973 and April of 1974.

Eligibility for a grant under the program is determined on an individual basis, and the grants do carry certain restrictions. Depending on need and expenses incurred, a grant could be as much as $5,000 per individual or family.

"We sincerely hope," Governor Wallace said, "that this new program will bring some relief to those who suffered severe financial hardship as a result of the tornadoes which swept through Alabama during the springs of 1973 and 1974."

The Governor's feelings were shared by Civil Defense Director C. J. Sullivan and Pensions and Security Commissioner Julia J. Oliver. These two agencies have worked together many times to lessen the suffering of disaster victims throughout Alabama. The Individual and Family Grant Program will enable the departments to assist in a new and extremely important way.

Financed with State and Federal funds, the program is aimed at individuals and families who have not received adequate assistance from other governmental programs or private sources. It specifically does not cover business or farm losses.

Departments of Pensions and Security in Jefferson, Franklin and Lamar Counties began taking applications for the grants on December 9, 1974. These three counties are participating in a pilot project to work out administrative procedures for handling the program. The other 25 affected counties will begin taking applications on January 6, 1975, and the last day for applying in all counties is February 6, 1975.

Assistance under the new program is limited specifically to serious needs and necessary expenses resulting from Presidentially declared disasters. Listed below are the Alabama counties benefiting from the program, along with the dates of the Presidentially declared disasters occurring in these counties:

May 27 and 28, 1973 — Bibb, Cullman, Etowah, Hale, Jefferson, Perry, St. Clair, Shelby, and Talladega.

May 19, 20, 27, and 28, 1973 — Jackson, Marshall.

May 8, 19, 20, 27, and 28, 1973 — DeKalb.

April 1-4, 1974 — Blount, Cherokee, Cleburne, Colbert, Cullman, Etowah, Fayette, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Lamar, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Morgan, Pickens, Tuscaloosa, Walker, and Winston.

People Resources: A Return To Basics

Highlights of the Keynote Address at the 1974 Alabama Conference of Child Care

By Gerald Hagmeyer, Executive Director, Hoffman Home for Children, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

The opportunity to address this annual meeting of the Alabama Conference of Child Care . . . gives me the responsibility, which we should all assume periodically, of communicating what I have learned and am in the process of learning about services to children and their families.

* * * * * * * *

The conference theme, *People Resources: A Return to Basics*, is timely and shall always be timely. An essential element in the helping professions is to evaluate continuously the resources within ourselves as we serve in various capacities as gatekeepers of mental health, and also to evaluate continuously the resources, the strengths, within the clients we serve. As we develop increased self-awareness, broaden our base of knowledge and develop increased skills in the helping process, we become more effective in our dealings with other people. And as we focus upon the inner strengths of our clients, they become more skillful in the use of our services.

In what follows, I shall refer to my experiences at Hoffman Home for Children. . . .

A girl who was in care at HHC five years ago wrote a poem. . . . Let me read this poem to you. It says much about children who find themselves in foster care situations.

Loneliness

An emptiness stirs within me,
I am surrounded by smiling faces,
Love is all around,
But I am alone.

I dutifully watch the activities
Of daily life.
I make a pretense of living like them,
But I am alone.

I am incomplete, forgotten,
Loved by all but yet loved by none,
In touch with man, but there is no contact
Because I am alone.

The world is here, willed by God,
But it's their world,
To me it is but a forsaken island,
Because I am alone.

And we deal with lonely children, who grow up to be lonely adults unless we can successfully interfere with their life patterns, and give them the opportunity to invest trust and discover that the trust invested is handled appropriately in a loving and caring way.

Gerald Hagmeyer

A major breakthrough was made with this lonely girl who experienced tremendous deprivation throughout her life. While she probably will continue to experience feelings of separateness and loneliness, she has begun to invest trust and appears to be continuing to do so. . . .

Who deserves credit for this spurt of growth in this girl? Obviously the girl who wrote the poem. She is a young adult now and a senior in college. The feedback that we have gotten from her is that the important enablers in what has happened were her child care workers. Other people were involved in the team relationship in the process which allowed this girl to discover that she is capable of being loved and capable of loving. Some staff members had professional training and some did not. Those who played significant roles have within themselves the capacity to be involved in this girl's life in a meaningful, caring way.

At this point it might be well to take a look at what constitutes success, or failure. Am I successful as a probation officer if a boy I'm working with does not appear back in juvenile court? Or as a protective service worker, is my success dependent upon the conditions of neglect within the family being corrected? Or do I fail as a teacher in a day care center if George continues to stay by himself and cry for his mommie? Obviously not. We succeed as we give people the opportunity to handle their lives in a

more responsible manner. The *client* succeeds or fails in his use of that opportunity.

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Families and particularly parents play key roles in the lives of children with whom we work, either through their being actively involved in the lives of the children, or through their absence. During a therapy group session recently I made the observation that sometimes concerns and thoughts about family interfere with a student's ability to concentrate on studies in school. A bright girl in her senior year said, "Every day, every hour I think about my family — how my parents are doing, my brothers." Later she realistically evaluated her father by saying that she sees him as her friend. He doesn't visit her much and drives close to the campus without stopping to say hello, but she would not expect more than that from a friend. A boy who had eleven years of bad experiences in foster homes following four traumatic years with his mother said, "I grew up with a lot of hate. I don't have that much love in me. That's why I don't ever want to get married." Reflecting on his capacity to grow, he added, "Perhaps in another year I will be able to get involved in love relationships with other people."

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When we think in terms of the resources we have in working with children and neglect to take serious stock of the strength and the weaknesses of their parents, we begin to do a great deal of inefficient work. We cannot place ourselves in the position of passing value judgments on parents that result in further decisions to remove those parents totally from the lives of their children. The only people who can adequately make such value judgments are the parents and the children. The girl who said that she sees her father as her friend made that decision herself. She would be in opposition to anyone who made the decision for her. When she deals with reality, it is the reality of her own world.

It is our responsibility as gatekeepers of mental health to keep parents involved. As we work with children and with parents, we might help them to determine whether or not a goal for the child to return to home is realistic, or whether another goal to have the parents continue to relate to their child on a part-time visiting basis might be more realistic. Parents can be key people in a child's use of a foster home or a group setting. They can help a child accept his role as a foster child or accept his role as a resident of a correctional setting. Our work with youth on probation is enhanced and many times successful when the youth's parents are supporting the work of the probation officer and not undermining it.

There doesn't ever seem to be much question about working with the total family unit when we render protective services. We recognize that we're dealing with a family in trouble. The child in difficulty with the police, the child in an institution, the child in a foster home is a child who is part of a family in trouble. Whenever we lose sight of the child as part of his family, we are over-looking a basic resource that is most vital to our services. . . .

We also need to keep in mind that for many of the boys and girls who find their way into foster care, to neglect to keep them involved with their family and to work on the dysfunctioning within that family means only to delay dysfunctional family interactions until after that child becomes an adult. Many boys and girls who grow up in foster homes or in institutions find their way back to their nuclear families. . . .

We must be doubly careful that we never protect children from their parents. We can fall into that trap, with the assumption that we can provide a better home for the child than his parents can. I shall never forget an experience. . . . (relative to) a two-and-one half-year-old child in a good foster home. Quite appropriately, he had been voluntarily placed in foster care by his parents at age four months. His mother had tuberculosis and was admitted to a sanatorium. His older brothers and sisters could be cared for by his father and by relatives. This child was too young, thus the foster home placement. The mother returned with a clean bill of health from the sanatorium six months later. She was not contacted then about the return of her baby. Some months after that the family was approached regarding the return of their child and they said that they would rather wait until spring because the heat in their house was not that good. About a year later they were again contacted and another flimsy excuse was given. There was a notation in the case record that the child is in a good middle class foster home, far superior to the home of his natural family. What happened? The very thing that happens with many prematurely born infants when the mother is allowed to go home from the hospital and not have contact and be involved with her infant until the time the infant is ready to be discharged from the hospital. At that time the mother tends to feel that she has been a failure as a mother and some times doesn't want to take the child home at all. There was no excuse

(Continued on next page)

"People Resources"

(Continued from Page 11)

for this child to be in a foster home more than a few days after his mother returned from the sanatorium. I made a strong recommendation that plans be initiated immediately to begin working aggressively towards returning this child to his family. If this child were not returned, he might have stayed with this foster family until he was eighteen and had a fairly good experience (although an expensive one to the taxpayers and to himself) or he might have gone the route of some children in foster care by being bounced through a number of foster homes like a ping-pong ball. That agency could not under any circumstances improve living conditions for that child by having him live with anyone other than his own parents and brothers and sisters.

As we talk about families, we tend to think in terms of parents who haven't done their job. And when we start thinking about our adolescent caseload, we also recognize that many youths do not do their job with their parents. I suppose that all of us except those involved in day care are quite familiar with the adolescent who comes from a stable home, who badgers his parents and, identifying with the value system of his peer group, becomes a runaway or gets involved with drugs or in difficulty with the law. Our task as we work with parents and with children, no matter what cause brought the family to our attention, is to treat each family member as a person of dignity and of worth. The neglecting mother, the rebelling youth, the alcoholic father — in any type of situation, whenever we fail to look for the strengths of these clients we find their weaknesses. Whenever we fail to focus upon their weaknesses.

Another basic in work with children and youth is structure, whether we are concerned about children living in their own families, in foster homes, in institutions or in group homes—the structure within his living situation and the broader structure encompassing the community and the school. We all need structure no matter what we are doing. We need to know what the limits are within which we can function and have those limits very clearly spelled out to us. Structure protects people and protects groups within which people live. We are in trouble when we don't know where our limits are or, knowing those limits, go beyond them. . . .

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Many children . . . in foster homes . . . are given freedom, and when they stay within the structure of the foster home they do well. When they continuously break through that wall, replacement many times is indicated. A probation officer places more limited structure upon the life of a youth on probation, because that youth demonstrated his inability to handle the greater freedom he had before he was placed on probation. If he cannot live within this more restricted structure, it might be necessary to tighten the structure even further by removing him from his own home and placing him in a correctional setting.

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Boys and girls growing up need to have limits defined for them. And these limits need to be fair, firm and consistent in an atmosphere of concern. As we work with foster parents or with children in their own homes, we need to help the parenting people at times to define structure within that home and to support them in the maintenance of this structure.

* * * * * * * *

There is more to working with people than structure. We need to be *involved* in the lives of the people with whom we work. *Structure without loving* and *caring* is *ineffective* structure. Authoritarian parents use structure ineffectively. Involved parents or parenting people hold children to the responsible course and teach them lessons which serve them as they grow into adulthood.

It is my conviction that we need to be involved in the total lives of the children and the adults with whom we work. This means becoming someone real to them and having them become someone real to us. . . .

As effective gatekeepers of mental health, we do not talk *to* people on the other side of the desk. We go over and *join* them. They are our peers, no matter whether they are five, eighteen or seventy-five years of age. We are all children of God, and at this particular moment in time we have a special type of relationship to the clients with whom we are working. . . .

On several occasions I made mention of our need to focus upon the *strengths* of the people with whom we work. . . .

It is most important to *give credit* where credit is due. Too often we become overly concerned with criticisms and lose sight of the strengths that people have.

I had an experience within the past three weeks which illustrates this point. . . .

* * * * * * * *

Whenever anyone makes an evaluation of me, I have absolutely no objections so long as it is

done in the manner of my introduction this morning. It makes me "feel glad all over" when people give me credit. However, I do object when people evaluate me only on a critical basis. I then demand or think about demanding a full evaluation, a *balancing* of my strengths with my liabilities. If a person wants to be involved in my life, I want to receive positive reinforcement from time to time. I also want to know things that I do well — a full evaluation — before I'm told about things that I do poorly.

. . . I began teaching staff the art of crediting. Initially the reaction of some staff members was, "It won't work." And then it was demonstrated that in fact it does work. . . . They began telling boys and girls what they do well during the day, and they do many things well. Whenever they were ready to criticize a youngster, they tried to first give credit for things done well before criticizing. If they were upset in an upsetting situation and only criticized, they then went back later to give credit at least for the youth's accepting their direction after the upset was over. . . . No longer during a case conference (which included the child being staffed) did we hear a lot of negatives. And no longer did we hear positives stated negatively, such as, "Harry hasn't lied and hasn't stolen for the past four months." And, do not fail to appreciate the significance of such subtleties. Particularly with adolescents, we can very easily be trapped into taking a critical stance. Too many people do — parents, school principals, teachers, social workers, probation officers, anyone working with the rebellious defiant adolescent.

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During a group therapy session which I conduct in one of the residences I became aware of the critical nature of the comments the boys made about each other. I interjected into the group the process of crediting, and began helping the boys to teach each other how to credit. Instead of a divisive group in that residence, it became quite cohesive. The quality of life improved considerably. We then began teaching all of the boys and girls in our care the art of crediting. Subsequently, the quality of life on our campus and in our group homes improved considerably.

There is nothing new about positive reinforcement or about crediting people before criticizing them, or about the sandwich effect of crediting someone before criticizing them and then crediting them after they respond to the criticism. . . .

* * * * * * * *

People Resources: A Return to Basics, it's important that we always work on developing the resources within ourselves and within our clients in order that our clients can achieve success in using the services available to them. And we need constantly to focus on basics and to evaluate the basics with which we work.

Clara Mae Lloyd Group Home For Girls Opens In Selma

A dream came true this October for Clara Mae Lloyd, who retired earlier this year as Director of the Dallas County Department of Pensions and Security, after a long and honored career in the field of child welfare.

The opening of the Clara Mae Lloyd Group Home for Girls, housed in one of Selma's stately old residences, was the culmination of her long and enthusiastic advocacy of youth and her efforts as one of the prime movers in the establishment of the Central Alabama Youth Service, which operates the facility for girls aged twelve to sixteen from Dallas and seven other Central Alabama counties.

Miss Lloyd was the guest of honor at an open house held at the Group Home on Sunday, October 27, with Mr. and Mrs. Tim Averett, houseparents, other members of the CAYS staff, and members of the Group Homes Advisory Committee as hosts. Greeting visitors with Miss Lloyd was Judge B. M. Biller Childers of the Dallas County Juvenile Court and Chairman of the Regional Board of Directors of the CAYS.

Friends of Miss Lloyd, both personal and professional, joined neighbors and interested citizens in greeting her and viewing the newly-refurbished dwelling, which has living accomodations for six girls. The home will accept girls referred to the agency as in need of a residential program to provide alternatives to detention, commitment to the state training school, or situations conducive to delinquent behavior.

During her long tenure as Child Welfare Supervisor of the Dallas County DPS, a post she held until becoming its Director several years ago, Miss Lloyd earned the praise and respect of her fellow-professionals as well as law enforcement and school authorities for her judicious and enlightened approach to handling juvenile problems. She worked tirelessly to improve existing services to children and to interest others in developing resources to meet the needs of dependent and neglected as well as delinquent youth.

The decision of the Regional Board to name the Girls Home in her honor is but one measure of the esteem in which Clara Mae Lloyd is held and expresses only in part the appreciation felt for her dedication to children.

"Child Abuse and Neglect"

"Sure I hit her. She's my daughter and it's nobody's business what I do when she doesn't behave!"

Across the nation, there are parents who use fists, belts, baseball bats, chemicals, lighted cigarettes to punish their children. Children are bitten, sexually molested, stomped, dropped out of windows, scalded, undernourished. Concern for the welfare of these children, and for the rehabilitation of their parents, is mounting.

Theodore Irwin looks at this highly complex and growing problem in "TO COMBAT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT," a new Public Affairs Pamphlet. He discusses some causes of child maltreatment, why past approaches proved shortsighted, what some communities are doing to protect injured and endangered children and to rehabilitate their parents, what remains to be done. "TO COMBAT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT" is available for 35 cents from the Public Affairs Committee, 381 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Estimates of the prevalence of child abuse in the United States vary widely, Irwin explains, "largely because a great number of cases are 'missed' by physicians who don't want to get involved, who cover up for parents, or who can't pin down what led to an injury . . . Conservatively, the U.S. Children's Bureau places the annual incidence at about 50,000 to 75,000 cases." One physician, a leading authority on the problem, believes child battering is probably the most common cause of death among children today.

Studies indicate, Irwin reports, that most child battering is done by apparently "normal" people, generally striking out in rage, resentment, or sheer ignorance during a critical time in their own lives. Maltreatment has been traced to compulsive disciplinarians, to parents who were themselves abused as children, and to the general violence in our society. Child abuse is found among poor families and among middle- and upper-income families as well—although the latter are more likely to escape public attention because their physicians, it seems, rarely report them.

Dealing with the problem of child abuse, it is widely agreed, requires a coordinated community effort of public and private agencies aimed both at child protection and at parent rehabilitation. "It is not only this child who should concern us," writes Irwin. "Abusing parents may already have, or may in the future have, other children who can be mistreated. So . . . handling the immediate situation is only one aspect of the community's responsibility. Understanding the total pattern of life in that family and instituting necessary remedial measures offer the only real chance for breaking the pattern of child abuse."

Irwin describes some new approaches in a number of communities. He finds less emphasis on placing abused youngsters in foster homes and more on helping parents cope with their problems. "Obviously, educating parents about child development and child rearing can help avert abuse and dangerous neglect. So can decent housing, medical care, jobs, whatever nurtures a healthy family. For distressed families desperately in need of aid, getting services to them as quickly as possible often prevents real tragedies."

While there is no ready, sure-fire solution, "all the major child advocates agree that people in a community must become personally involved—including lobbying for government action on city, state, and federal levels—before success in stamping out the maltreatment 'disease' can be expected. This may mean raising voices for appropriations to launch special programs, such as county-wide comprehensive plans that would include lay therapists or parent aides, Parents Anonymous, crisis nurseries, therapeutic day care, family development centers." Guidance on parenthood should be part of our educational and community mental health system. "Comprehensive family planning programs," Irwin suggests, "could reduce the number of unwanted and rejected children—frequent victims of physical abuse and even infanticide." Physicians and hospitals, it is felt, need to take greater responsibility for identifying and following-up suspected cases and, on the legal front, the entire question of parental and child rights calls for reexamination.

"Clearly," Irwin concluded, "the vicious cycle of child abuse and neglect from generation to generation must be broken. In the long run that can be accomplished only if treatment of the abusive parent is coupled with efforts to improve the conditions—social, economic, psychological—underlying the problem."

"TO COMBAT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT" is No. 508 in the Public Affairs Pamphlet series, now in its 39th year. The series includes many other helpful titles covering physical and mental health, child and adolescent development, family relations, alcohol and drug abuse, social and economic problems. All pamphlets are 35 cents each; a list is available upon request.

Child Abuse Prevention Week

"Child Abuse Prevention Week," proclaimed by Governor Wallace for December 1-7, 1974, focused strong attention on citizen and legal responsibilities in reporting and preventing child abuse throughout Alabama. Every County Department of Pensions and Security worked closely with members of the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs who spearheaded observance of this special week in the various communities.

Pamphlets on the State's child abuse law were released in the early fall by the State Department of Pensions and Security to schools, hospitals, physicians, social workers, nurseries, nurses, and all interested individuals and organizations. The primary purpose of the publications is to protect children against abuse and to help the public understand how everyone can help to do so.

Alabama law requires any person knowing of or suspecting an instance of child abuse to report the facts at once to the County Department of Pensions and Security, the sheriff, or the chief of police, a fact which the Department of Pensions and Security pamphlet makes clear. It also sets forth what all citizens need to know concerning their rights and responsibilities under the law.

The Alabama Child Abuse Act applies to all citizens and anyone wanting copies of the pamphlets should contact the State Department of Pensions and Security in Montgomery.

Persons reporting suspected child abuse are immune, by law, from any legal action, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed.

Efforts of the women's clubs, emphasis on the dangers of abuse and the need for protective service for dependent and neglected children, and wider understanding of the Alabama Child Abuse Law, hopefully, will bring about a reduction in this problem in our State.

Social Worker, Are You Guilty?

Editor's Note

Following is an editorial published in "The Montgomery Advertiser" recently. Though it was written for those in the field of Education, it holds lessons for any professional who forsakes plain words for the "code language" of his trade. Such terminology is seldom understood even by those who use it.

HOW'S THAT AGAIN?

WE'VE HEARD the National Council on Teachers of English have launched a campaign to return to good old, common English.

If so, the best place to start cleaning up is within the profession. We're indebted to the Bulletin put out by the Council for Basic Education for some examples of how far the deterioration of language has gone.

Excerpted below is a lexicon of professional terms one may hear bouncing off the walls of academe these days.

Even what we once called jargon has been given a new title. It is now communicative skills.

Mothers who help around the schools were sometimes known as teacher aides, but today they're paraprofessional or resource persons.

Okay. Or should we say affirmative? And what do the little nippers amuse themselves with in kindergarten? Blocks and toys? Perish the thought. Manipulatives is the in-term.

And the schoolmarm? She's now a facilitator or a change-agent. And when a group of these facilitators get together to discuss problems they become a task force.

Their findings and recommendations are feedback. And when this feedback is ready to be implemented, the priority by which this will take place goes through a process called prioritizing.

The good old library, with its books, records and films is now the learning resources center which contains instructional system components. How impressive.

When the congregants in the learning resources center begin to whisper a bit too loudly, we wonder how the person in charge restores order. Perhaps by stating: Cease covert communication. That's a far cry from shooh.

But, here's the corker. Should the facilitator wish to deny her charges the right to use street dialect, she would commit linguistic apartheid.

So, to the nation's English teachers we can only say: Charity begins at home.

Cases Receiving Assistance[1]

SEPTEMBER 1974

	No. of Cases[2]	Amount of Assistance[3]	Avg. Payment Per Case
TOTAL	79,535	$5,633,591.07	$70.83
Old Age Pensions:			
Money	27,080	815,210.65	30.10
Aid to Blind:			
Money	386	16,054.34	41.59
Aid to Dependent Children:			
Money	45,539	4,036,886.00	88.64[4]
Vendor—Foster Care:			
Board Payment	1,522	124,325.00	81.68
Service Fee	XXX	44,691.00*	29.36
Aid to Children in Foster Care—County:			
Board Payment	1,787	133,289.65	74.59
Service Fee	XXX	50,709.00*	28.37
Aid to Children in Foster Care—State:			
Board Payment	93	13,761.16	147.97
Service Fee	XXX	1,799.00*	19.34
Aid to Permanently and Totally Disabled:			
Money	2,213	90,789.27	41.02
Temporary Aid	54	675.00	12.50
Aid to Children Receiving Day Care	5,160	302,075.00	58.54
Service Fees for Adult Foster Care[5]	112	3,326.00*	29.70

Note: In accordance with Public Law 92-603 a new program of **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** administered by the Social Security Administration was effective January 1, 1974 for the aged, blind, and disabled. Alabama has a program of supplementation for persons receiving less under SSI than under OAP, APTD, and AB in December 1973. Supplementary payments as made by the Alabama Department of Pensions and Security for these groups are shown here in addition to data for other programs.

[1] In instances where a recipient receives more than one type of public assistance, he is counted only once under **Total Number of Cases Receiving Assistance.** Average number of persons per case as of September is as follows: OAP, 1.00; AB, 1.00; ADC, 3.26; APTD, 1.00; TA, 1.00.

[2] In addition to the cases as shown here who received money payment there were also cases who received no money payment but were certified to the State Health Department as eligible for Title XIX — Medical Assistance Program. These included Old Age Pensions, Aid to Blind, Aid to Dependent Children, and Aid to Permanently and Totally Disabled cases.

[3] Does not include payments of $6,581.50 made from local public funds.

[4] Number of recipients for Aid to Dependent Children totaled **152,945** with an average payment per recipient of **$26.39.** Aid to Dependent Children data including Aid to Dependent Children-Foster Care are as follows: Total cases, 46,337; total recipients, 154,467; total children, 115,745; total payments, $4,161,211.00; average per case, $89.80; average per recipient, $26.94. An additional $44,691.00 was paid in service fees to boarding foster parents under ADC-FC.

[5] Includes $1,706.00 for 58 OAP, $60.00 for 2 AB, and $1,560.00 for 52 APTD.

*Payments based on a rate of $30 per month service fee. In addition, for children in foster care a vendor board payment is made, and for adults in foster care a money payment to the recipient who is in foster care.

Cases Receiving Assistance[1]

OCTOBER 1974

	No. of Cases[2]	Amount of Assistance[3]	Avg. Payment Per Case
TOTAL	78,273	$5,561,897.57	$71.06
Old Age Pensions:			
Money	26,751	808,859.48	30.23
Aid to Blind:			
Money	383	15,775.97	41.19
Aid to Dependent Children:			
Money	44,711	3,955,626.00	88.47[4]
Vendor—Foster Care:			
Board Payment	1,549	126,332.00	81.55
Service Fee	XXX	45,476.00*	29.35
Aid to Children in Foster Care—County:			
Board Payment	1,721	129,232.19	75.09
Service Fee	XXX	49,426.00*	28.71
Aid to Children in Foster Care—State:			
Board Payment	97	13,786.51	142.13
Service Fee	XXX	1,840.00*	18.97
Aid to Permanently and Totally Disabled:			
Money	2,160	88,839.42	41.12
Temporary Aid	56	700.00	12.50
Aid to Children Receiving Day Care	5,277	322,537.00	61.12
Service Fees for Adult Foster Care[5]	116	3,467.00*	29.89

Note: In accordance with Public Law 92-603 a new program of **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** amdinistered by the Social Security Administration was effective January 1, 1974 for the aged, blind, and disabled. Alabama has a program of supplementation for persons receiving less under SSI than under OAP, APTD, and AB in December 1973. Supplementary payments as made by the Alabama Department of Pensions and Security for these groups are shown here in addition to data for other programs.

[1] In instances where a recipient receives more than one type of public assistance, he is counted only once under **Total Number of Cases Receiving Assistance.** Average number of persons per case as of October is as follows: OAP, 1.00; AB, 1.00; ADC, 3.26; APTD, 1.00; TA, 1.00.

[2] In addition to the cases as shown here who received money payment there were also cases who received no money payment but were certified to the State Health Department as eligible for Title XIX — Medical Assistance Program. These included Old Age Pensions, Aid to Blind, Aid to Dependent Children, and Aid to Permanently and Totally Disabled cases.

[3] Does not include for some categories a small amount of local public funds.

[4] Number of recipients for Aid to Dependent Children totaled **150,279** with an average payment per recipient of $26.32. Aid to Dependent Children data including Aid to Dependent Children-Foster Care are as follows: Total cases, 45,521. Total recipients, 151,828; total children, 113,894; total payments, $4,081,958.00; average per case, $89.67; average per recipient, $26.89. An additional $45,476.00 was paid in service fees to boarding foster parents under ADC-FC.

[5] Includes $1,771.00 for 59 OAP, $60.00 for 2 AB, and $1,636.00 for 55 APTD.

*Payments based on a rate of $30 per month service fee. In addition, for children in foster care a vendor board payment is made, and for adults in foster care a money payment to the recipient who is in foster care.

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